

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 822
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Traci Jefferson on her selection as Teacher of the Year at East High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Traci Jefferson is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jefferson has recently been selected by her colleagues as Teacher of the Year at East High School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, upon receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education from Lincoln Memorial University, Ms. Jefferson then earned her Master of Education degree in Administration and Supervision and her Education Specialist degree from Lincoln Memorial University; she received her endorsement in French from Carson-Newman College and the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, for nine exemplary years, Ms. Jefferson has served with acumen and alacrity as a French I and II teacher; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jefferson is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, striving to instill the value of community spirit in the students of East High School, Ms. Jefferson is the sponsor of the Interact Club; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Alternative Discipline Support Team Positive Behavior Support (PBS), Ms. Jefferson has undergone extensive training and will soon be assisting in a Principal's Forum on PBS in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, an active part of the Hamblen County Education Association (HCEA) and its affiliates, TEA and NEA, Ms. Jefferson has served on the HCEA Executive Board for the past six years, and currently serves as a member of the Negotiating Team; and

WHEREAS, wishing to advance education not only in Hamblen County, but throughout the State and Nation as well, Ms. Jefferson has served on several State-level committees, the most recent being the State Special Schools Committee and Credentials Committee and has been a member of the SACS accreditation visiting teams for Tennessee high schools; on the National level, she has represented Tennessee as a National Delegate for NEA in Los Angeles, Dallas, and New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, an active member of First Baptist Church, Ms. Jefferson is very involved in the Music Ministry and recently sang the National Anthem for the city's Tree Lighting Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jefferson truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Dale Lynch, Director of Schools for Hamblen County, "To be recognized as building level Teacher of the Year by one's colleagues is one of the most prestigious honors one can receive," and Ms. Jefferson is certainly most deserving of such an accolade; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jefferson truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Traci Jefferson on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at East High School, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

